(vi) Coordinated operation of hydro, thermal nuclear and gas turbine power stations in the regional power system.

(vii) Augmentation of transmission, transformation capacity in the power system and installation of shunt capacitors to improve the voltage.

(viii) Reduction of transmission and distribution losses.

Consumption of Energy by Different Sectors

2234. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what is rate of energy consumption by different sectors during the years 1997-98 and 1998-99;

(b) whether it is a fact that the growth rate of energy consumption have not increased according to the estimate of the Power Ministry; and

(c) if so, the details and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) The rate of growth of actual (Restricted) energy consumption in the country by different sectors during the year 1997-98 is given below; the data for 1998-99 is under collection and compilation:—

S. No. Sector	Percentage growth rate during 1997-98 Actual (Restricted)
1. Domestic	11.6
2. Commercial & Miscellaneous	10.1
3. Public Lighting	6.1
4. Public Waterworks	10.5
5. Irrigation	8.6
6. Industry	1.8
7. Railway Traction	5.3
TOTAL;	6.7

(b) and (c) The growth rates as estimated in the 15th Electric Power Survey Committee (EPC), in respect of the industrial, public lighting, public matter works and Railway traction sectors have not been achieved. However, the growth rates in the domestic, commercial and agriculture have been achieved.

The reasons for the difference in the estimated and actual growth rates are:—

1. The 15th EPS estimates correspond to unrestricted conditions and are based on actual data upto the year 1992-93 (Base Year) after making due allowance for energy cuts, where as the actual figures are actual met under restricted conditions.
2. Demand out stripping the availability and consequently cuts imposed on the use of power by various utilities.
3. Recession in the economy resulting in slow industrial growth.

Better Management of Power Sector

2235. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether distribution of power has been given so far to private sector at any place in India;

(b) if so, what is the experience of Government and the parties involved and the problems faced by both; and

(c) what steps are being taken to remove the bottleneck in the power distribution for a better management of power sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) Private companies have been distributing power in some cities like Bombay Suburban Electricity Supply Ltd. in Mumbai, Calcutta Electricity Supply Company Limited in Calcutta and Ahmedabad Electricity Company Limited in Ahmedabad for a long time. The performance of these companies has been satisfactory.

Recently in 1999, Orissa has privatised distribution by divesting 51% share holding of four distribution companies created as a part of their reform programme. While it is too early to assess the performance of private distribution companies in Orissa, it is expected that quality of service to the consumers would improve and these companies would be able to bring commercial viability to the power supply industry in Orissa by being effective in reducing power pilferage and technical losses.

(c) In order to make the power sector commercially viable, a Conference of Power Ministers was held on 26.2.2000 wherein it was resolved, *inter alia,* to adopt the following measures for better managment of power sector.

- energy audit at all levels.
- time bound program of 100% metering of all consumers by December, 2001.